GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2013
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2016
Project Mausam
Reddy Shri Konda Vishweshwar

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives and detailed outline of Project Mausam with its expected time of commencement and completion along with the cost of the project;

(b) whether the Government has entered into partnerships with other nations and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the expected contribution of Project Mausam in enhancing Cultural cooperation between India and Other Maritime countries?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) Project 'Mausam' is the initiative of Ministry of Culture to be implemented by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) as the nodal agency with research support of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) and National Museum as associate bodies. This project aims to explore the multi-faceted Indian Ocean 'world' − collating archaeological and historical research in order to document the diversity of cultural, commercial and religious interactions in the Indian Ocean − extending from East Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, the Indian Subcontinent and Sri Lanka to the Southeast Asian archipelago. It also aims to promote research on themes related to the study of Maritime Routes through international scientific seminars and meetings and by adopting a multidisciplinary approach. The project encourages the production of specialized works, as well as publications for the general public with an attempt at promoting a broader understanding of the concept of a common heritage and multiple identities. Main objective of the project is to prepare a dossier for trans-national nomination as World Heritage. Project Mausam commenced in April 2015 and its completion is scheduled in March, 2017. Total estimated cost of the project is Rs. 150, 244, 502/-.

(b)The Government has identified 39 countries (list given in Annexure-I) to bring on board for trans-national nomination for World Heritage but so far has not entered into partnerships.

(c) The project 'Mausam' will promote cultural relations with several countries in the Indian Ocean region and will fill in gaps in understanding history from African, Asian and Arab world perspectives. It will address the existing gap in archaeological and historical research on coastal sites and their hinterlands and will contribute to prepare a dossier for trans-national nomination for inscription on UNESCO's World Heritage List.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2013 FOR 28.11.2016.

List of 39 Indian Ocean countries identified under Project Mausam:

1 Bahrain
2 Bangladesh
3 Cambodia
4 China
5 Comoros
6 Egypt
7 Eritrea
8 RÃ©union, French Department
9 Indonesia
10 Iraq
11 Iran (Islamic Republic)
12 Jordan
13 Kuwait
14 Kenya
15 Lebanon
16 Madagascar
17 Malaysia
18 Maldives

19 Mauritius
20 Mozambique
21 Myanmar
22 Oman
23 Pakistan
24 Philippines
25 Qatar
26 Singapore
27 Sri Lanka
28 Saudi Arabia
29 Seychelles
30 Somalia
31 South Africa
32 Sudan
33 Syrian Arab Republic
34 United Republic of Tanzania
35 Thailand
36 Turkey
37 United Arab Emirates
38 Viet Nam
39 Yemen